



THE TOKEN HUNTER

April 1996, Vol. 15 No. 4



The Official Publication Of The National Utah Token Society (N.U.T.S.)

DEDICATED TO THE COLLECTING, RECORDING, AND PRESERVING
OF UTAH'S HISTORICAL MEDALS, TOKENS, COINS, BOTTLES (AND MARBLES)

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NEXT MEETING

Thursday,
April 25, 1996
7:15 p.m.

PROGRAM

Louise Brown from
Brown's Antiques speaking
on the subject of
"MARBLE COLLECTING"

****PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES****

Promptness Prize 1935 Walking Liberty Half
Grand Prize 1919 Gold 2 1/2 Pesos (not a reproduction)

1881-O Morgan Silver Dollar

Mathis Market G/F 50 cents-----	St. George, Ut-----	HR-2	\$10-20
Charles Swallow G/F 25 cents-----	Meadow, Ut-----	HR-10	\$40-60
Mrs AA Palmer G/F 5 cents-----	Fayette, Ut-----	LR-8	\$30-50
A.R. Larsen G/F 5 cents-----	Pleasant Green, Ut-----	HR-1	\$8-16
Nephi Merc. G/F 25 cents-----	Nephi, Ut-----	HR-1	\$8-16
S.F.S.K. G/F 5 cents-----	Bingham, Ut-----	HR-3	\$8-16
Anderson & Carlson G/F 5 cents-----	Park City, Ut-----	LR-4	\$8-20
The Bank G/F 5 cents-----	Eureka, Ut-----	HR-1	\$6-15
Fillmore Social Club G/F 5 cents-----	Fillmore, Ut-----	HR-2	\$7-14
Elks Club G/F 5 cents-----	Price, Ut-----	HR-3	\$12-22
Kozy Korner G/F 10 cents-----	SLC, Ut-----	LR-4	\$8-16
Hyatt Dairy G/F 1-Gallon Milk-----	Parawan, Ut-----	HR-3	\$8-16

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I guess I should say "Acting President." Should I eat crow now or later? I remember telling myself and everyone else that I would never be president, so bear with me because I am sure I will need your help. We have a good friend of Bruce Duggar (as well as a lot of other club members) coming to speak at our April meeting. Louise Brown (a very special lady) from Brown's Antiques will be speaking on marble collecting. So plan on bringing your marbles, and I am sure she will be able to help you identify them.

Well, old man winter has started to give up his hold on our favorite places to detect. This is the best time of year to make good finds with the soil being moist and easy to dig. This is also a good time for some of our member's other favorite hobby -- spring garage sales!

If you did not attend the meeting for March, you missed a good one with Pat Mahoney speaking on Utah's historical forts. We also had a gentleman from back east (sorry, I can't remember his name) who had a great display of colonial coins and relics, the kind of things we never find in the west. Thanks to Pat and this gentleman for making the meeting so interesting. Hope to see you all at April's meeting.

Bill Turpela



WAGON MASTER'S REPORT BY BRUCE DUGGAR

We had some real nice keepers with the 72 entries for the FOM. With the weather like it is, you can really take advantage of it and come up with some nice keepers. This is my favorite time of the year because the ground is good and moist, the screening is not dusty, and the targets seem to leap out at my detector as I scan the ground. I hope everyone enjoys this time of the year and gets out to take advantage of it. Ok now results from our FOM. 1st. Place winners are:

U.S. Coin-----	Tim Zuner-- 1942 Walking Liberty half
Foreign Coin-----	Helen Epstein-- 1876 Canadian Penney
Token-----	Jerry Couch-- Liberty Market, Twin Falls, Idaho
Jewelry-----	Tim Zuner-- Ladies Brooch
Artifact-----	Eric Hubbard-- Semi-Centennial Piece, SLC
Button-----	Bruce Dugger-- Pre-civil war "I" eagle button
Non-Metal-----	Isaac Gold-- Union Pacific RR Cup
Peoples Choice Bottle-----	Tim Rose-- Ink Well
Oldest U.S. Coin-----	Tim Rose-- 1849 Seated Liberty half dime
Oldest U.S. Cent-----	Ralph Gold-- 1881 Indian Head
Most Valuable U.S. Coin-----	Eric Hubbard-- 1909-S VDB Penney

MEMORIAL DAY WEEK-END OUTING

By Bruce Dugger

The Nuts Club is doing something different this year. Instead of going to Frisco, Ut (As the club has done every Memorial day), We have voted (wagon masters) to go to the Ghost Towns of Dragon, Watson & Rainbow, Ut. Its a very interesting area with lots of history from railroading to mining. If your lucky (as I have been) you might find one or more of the Tokens from the towns in the area. If you are wanting to do more exploring then go up to Baxter Pass and see if you can reach the Ghost Town of Atchee, Co. Which I have never made it to due to the snow drifts on Baxter Pass. (Been to early in the year). If you decide to stay at a Motel the closest town is Dinosaur, Co. (Approx. 52 miles from Dragon). The attached map is accurate, but if you have not been there before then Please check with me for some detailed directions to help you find the area easier. Bring water as its very scarce there. The outing is scheduled for the week-end of May 25th, 26th and 27th.

DRAGON

Uintah County

Gilsonite is a black, solid hydrocarbon, occurring in vertical veins and is found in commercial quantities only in one place in the world — the Uintah Basin of Utah and partly in western Colorado. It is found in the Uintah Formation which runs for miles in a northwest to southeast direction across the Basin. Veins run from a fraction of an inch to 22 feet wide; most of the veins are 4-8 feet wide, and 100-2000 feet deep. It was first discovered in the 1860's-70's but not mined commercially until the 1880's by Samuel H. Gilson of Salt Lake City. Prof. William P. Blake in 1885 described the mineral originally as Uintahite, but it was soon called Gilsonite to honor Samuel Gilson who helped bring it into prominence for commercial purposes. The main uses for the mineral are in asphalt tile, storage battery cases, paints, inks, building paper, insulation material for steam and water pipes, gasoline, metallurgical coke and caulking for beer barrels.

The town of Dragon grew up on the flats 1.5 miles down from the Black Dragon mine, named for the gilsonite deposit on the surface of the ground in the shape of a black dragon.

In 1903-04 the General Asphalt Company, through its subsidiary Barber Asphalt Paving Company, constructed a narrow gauge railroad from Mack, Colorado, toward Dragon and the mine. This railroad, known as the Uintah Railway, was to become famous for its steep grades and extremely sharp curves. Because of the extreme sharpness of several curves over Baxter Pass some of the locomotives were too long so they were pulled over the curves on special wheels, then reassembled on the Utah side to spend the rest of their lives only in the Uintah Basin.

The town was first called Dragon Junction, as pas-

sengers and freight were put off for the stage or wagon trip to Vernal, while the railroad continued up to the mine. The mine was located in 1888 and included a tiny village called Dragon Camp. When the railroad was finished to Dragon, the town had a depot, warehouse, locomotive shops, Uintah Railway Hotel, a store, boarding house, several homes, two saloons, a barber shop and became much bigger than the mining camp itself.

In 1910 the Uintah Railway warehouse burned down, hundreds of tons of freight were destroyed; it became the greatest fire loss ever seen in northeastern Utah until that time. Gilsonite stored caught fire from a locomotive, producing a very hot fire with continuous fuel supply. A bucket brigade saved the baggage, express and telegraph buildings nearby but the warehouse, freight store rooms, platforms and ramps were destroyed. An engine pulled several cars of gilsonite away from the inferno, saving most of it awaiting shipment.

A public library was built in Dragon in 1910 and for anyone along the railroad who borrowed a book the Uintah Railway delivered and returned it free. Many stockmen and miners in the region took great advantage of the opportunity. Also in 1910 the Uintah Railway started using automobiles to transport passengers from Dragon to Vernal, thus phasing out stage coaches.

In 1908 a fire started on one section of the gilsonite vein at the Dragon mine and was still burning in 1910 but by then most of the mining was in areas north of Dragon. Then in 1911 the town went into a moderate decline as immediate mines closed down and the railroad terminus was moved to Watson 9.5 miles north. Enough people remained, however, to support a new school house in 1917.



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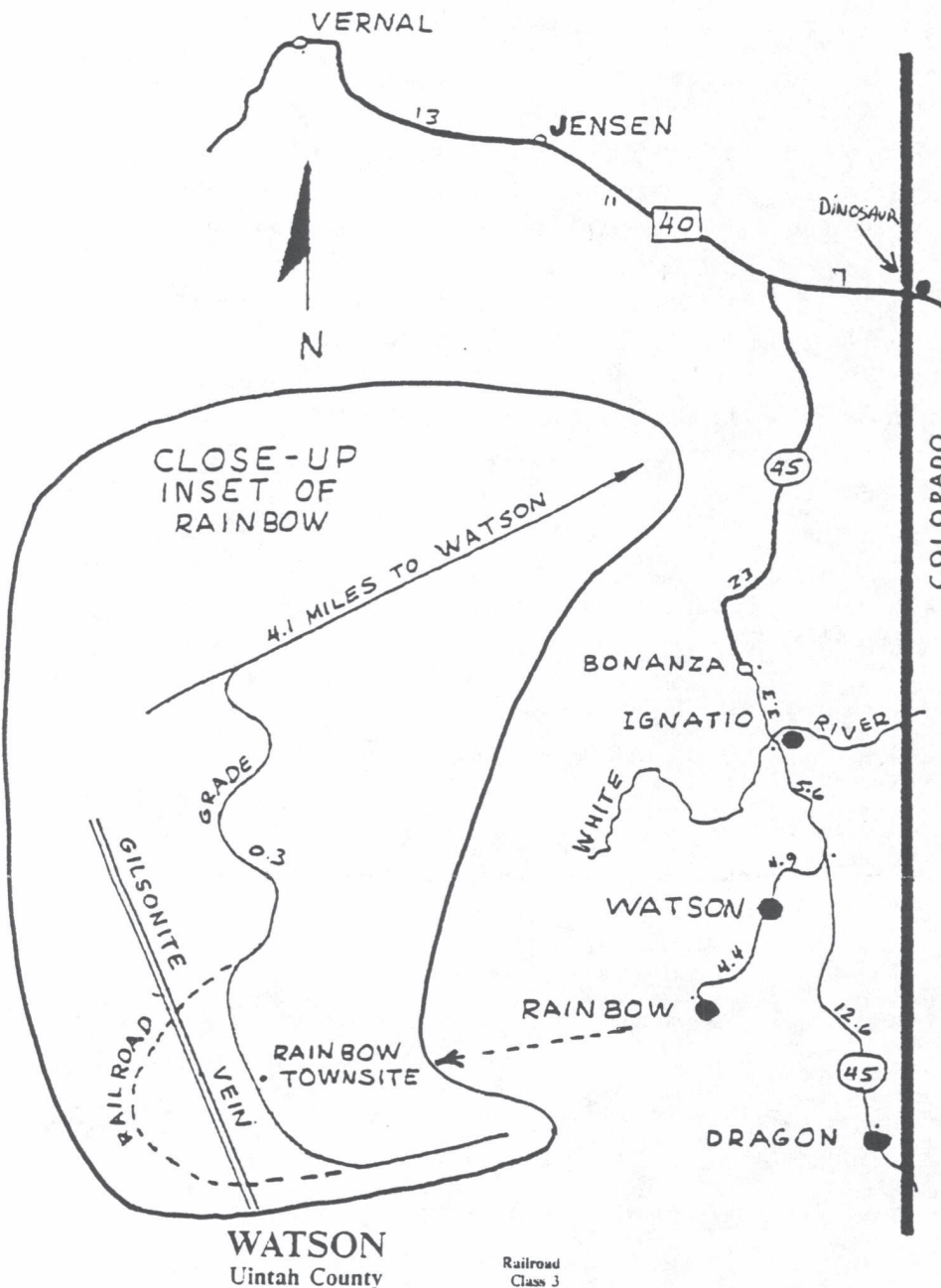
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JOLENE
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RAINBOW Uintah County

Mining
Class 3



Railroad
Class 3

Watson was named after Uintah Railway civil engineer, Wallace G. Watson, who laid out the railway extension from Dragon to Watson in 1911 along Evacuation Creek. The town was never very big mainly being a railroad terminus. It did contain a depot, post office and freight house, other railroad facilities and the railroad-owned Watson Hotel. There were also several houses, dugouts, and a couple of general stores.

One of the more humorous episodes in Uintah County history involved the Uintah Railway and Watson. In 1914 the U.S. government increased the weight limit of a parcel post package to 50 pounds which made it cheaper for shipments to go by mail rather than by overland stage freight, railroad freight charges or Railway Express. As a result great numbers of odd items went through the Dragon and Watson post offices on the railroad mail trains, then by truck or stage to Vernal, by the same route or even longer as regular freight. Everything from groceries to auto parts including a whole carload of cement went through. The final straw was the shipment of 13,700 bricks totaling 35 tons for building the Bank of Vernal. Each brick was individually wrapped, rubber stamped with the address stamped and mailed. This is the only known instance of a bank being sent through the mails.

Rainbow was more important, located four miles to the southwest of Watson and situated right over the Rainbow mine. The railroad spur to Rainbow, also laid in 1911, crossed over the gilsonite vein in a sweeping curve to facilitate loading of the mineral: a wye then allowed the engine to change positions for the trip back down the tight canyon.

Strictly a mine town, Rainbow consisted of two rows of houses, mostly of log construction, built along the ridge near the mine. The mines produced most of the railroad tonnage after 1911.

By 1938 mining operations were switched to Bonanza 15 miles north of Watson where the company offices are presently located, and the Rainbow mines stopped production.

The towns died rapidly and the railroad was abandoned in 1939 when mining operations ceased in Rainbow and Dragon and there was no other source of traffic for the line. Gilsonite from Bonanza was trucked to Vernal or Craig, Colorado. By 1939, just before abandonment, Watson had a population of 10. Dragon still had 72, mostly railroad workers, and Rainbow was gone — the log houses had been moved to Bonanza. Most well-built homes were sold or moved, others left to the elements.

The entire gilsonite area is very desolate. Only those sincerely interested in gilsonite history or old homesites would find this long, dusty trip worthwhile. Even more desolate is the road, the old narrow gauge railroad bed, from Dragon to Mack, Colorado, 45 miles south. The vistas are superb over Baxter Pass with not much chance of a traffic jam.

Paved State Highway 45 exits 24 miles east of Vernal and runs southward 23 miles to Bonanza. Although this town is not a ghost, it is worthwhile to observe the log buildings as most of them were once the town of Rainbow. Highway 45 beyond Bonanza is unpaved although graded and passable.

Several cabins remain at Ignatio 3.3 miles further south. The old bridge is still intact but unused next to a new concrete one.

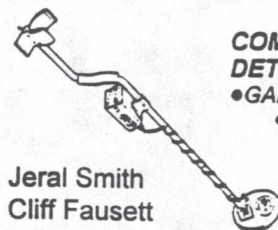
Only a few dugouts, loading pens and bottle fragments are left at Watson. The road to Rainbow fords the creek at Watson and may be bad when a flash flood goes through.

At 12.4 miles south from the Watson junction start noticing shacks and other remains of Dragon. More dugouts are seen in the hillside to the west. The hotel cellar is at the 12.6 miles mark. The entire townsite is so overgrown with six to eight foot tall sage brush and other bushes, that photographing the remaining buildings is difficult. It is hard to imagine so much heavy growth in just 30 years.

Rainbow is the place to see the actual mines. See map inset. Several good views of the vertical vein are noted within a short distance northwesterly from the empty gilsonite wagon straddling the vein. The vein is 10-12 feet wide at Rainbow and one can see it extending for miles through the hills. Many good chunks of gilsonite are still present for examination.

References: 9, 97, 100.

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A SHORT HISTORY OF SUGAR HOUSE PARK

BY KEVIN ANDERSON

When Mormon pioneers arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in 1849, Parley's Creek flowed out of the Wasatch Mountains and cut a wide swath through the heart of the valley on its way to the Jordan River. The width and depth of the wash bore witness that the small creek had the potential to become a raging torrent. (Restrained by dams and other flood control devices, Parley's Creek is now only a shadow of its former self). Locals subsequently named the wash "Parley's Hollow." In 1850, Brigham Young began construction on a flour mill just north of Parley's Creek at about 20th East. By the late 1800's, both the stagecoach and the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad followed Parley's Creek through the valley and up the canyon to Park City.

In 1853, Brigham Young chose Sugar House as the site of the territory's prison because he considered it to be a safe distance from the city. The prison walls were originally made of adobe that were so easy to tunnel through or climb over that a suggestion was made to build a new prison on an island of the Great Salt Lake -- something akin to Alcatraz -- but the idea was never realized. In the 1860's, the prisoners constructed twenty-two fish ponds at 2525 South and 11th East that were used as a hatchery to restock the canyon streams. When the federal government nationalized (i.e. confiscated) assets of the Mormon Church, it took control of the prison site. After Utah was admitted as a state in 1896, the federal government surrendered control of the prison and the surrounding property to the state. The prison was rebuilt and enlarged a number of times during its history.

The final prison walls were constructed of sandstone and stood nineteen feet high. The north wall was set back about fifty feet from 21st South and extended from approximately 1390 East to 1450 East. The deputy wardens lived in six homes that fronted the south side of 21st South from 1490 East through 1504 East. The warden's home occupied a tree-shaded gully below 17th East that is now the site of a picnic terrace. A portion of the park's present road follows the old Denver & Rio Grande rail line where it slopes down to the west and then circles to the east. Some of the large willows and cottonwoods near the creek were planted during the prison era. Directly southeast of the prison was a farm staffed by low-security prisoners who provided fresh meat and produce for the prison. At the end of this article is an old insurance map from the 1940s showing the prison's location in relation to present landmarks.

Famous inmates of the prison included Mormon leaders who were incarcerated for the heinous crime of unlawful cohabitation (polygamy). The most famous (or infamous depending on your politics) was Joe Hill -- a martyr for the labor movement but a cold-blooded murderer to the jury that convicted him for killing an Avenues' shopkeeper during a robbery. Joe hated Utah so much that he had his bullet-riddled body shipped to Chicago for cremation and then had his ashes mailed to labor unions in every state except

Utah (Joe really knew how to hurt a guy). Groups on opposite ends of the political spectrum have petitioned for markers to commemorate Joe Hill or the Mormon polygamists; however, neither of these movements has met with success.

During the 1940's, prison security was so sleepy that a local jokester erected a sign that read: "Drive slow, prisoners escaping." The sign became famous when it appeared in the pages of Life magazine.

In the mid-1950's, the state demolished the prison as it constructed new correctional facilities at Point of the Mountain. During the move, inmates were used to transport 25 graves to the new cemetery. Rumor has it that the inmates, being unskilled in the grave-digging business, left human remains on the present park site.

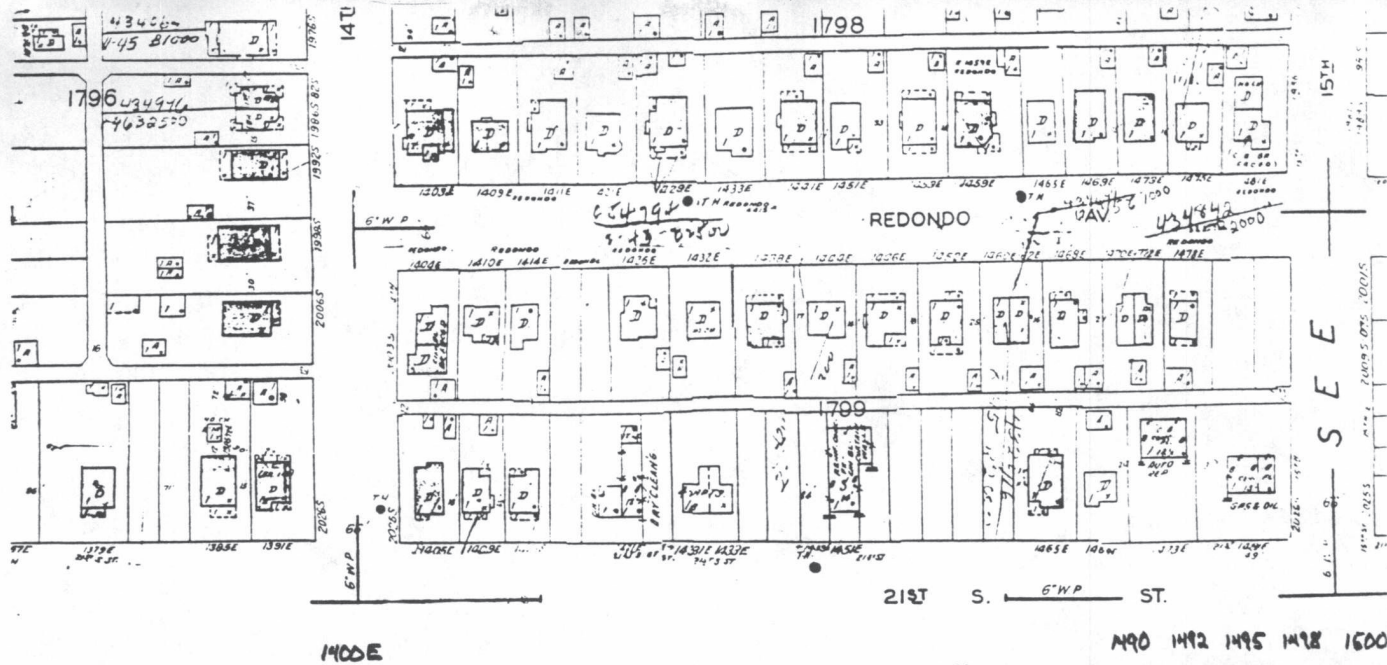
The initial plans for the park included a golf course surrounded by luxury home lots *al la* the Salt Lake Country Club. Other plans included a department store, a tourist campground, and an amusement park. Fortunately, civic-minded locals persuaded the state to sell the property to the city and county for \$225,000.00 or \$1,200.00 an acre, and Sugar House Park was born (the present value of an acre in Sugar House is about \$650,000.00).

The pond in Sugar House Park is fed by Parley's Creek that now makes most of its journey to the Jordan River through concrete pipes. City workers have diligently dredged the park pond every seven to ten years to prevent it from flooding. A newspaper article from 1975 indicates that the county dredged 125 to 150 truckloads of dirt each day for a week.

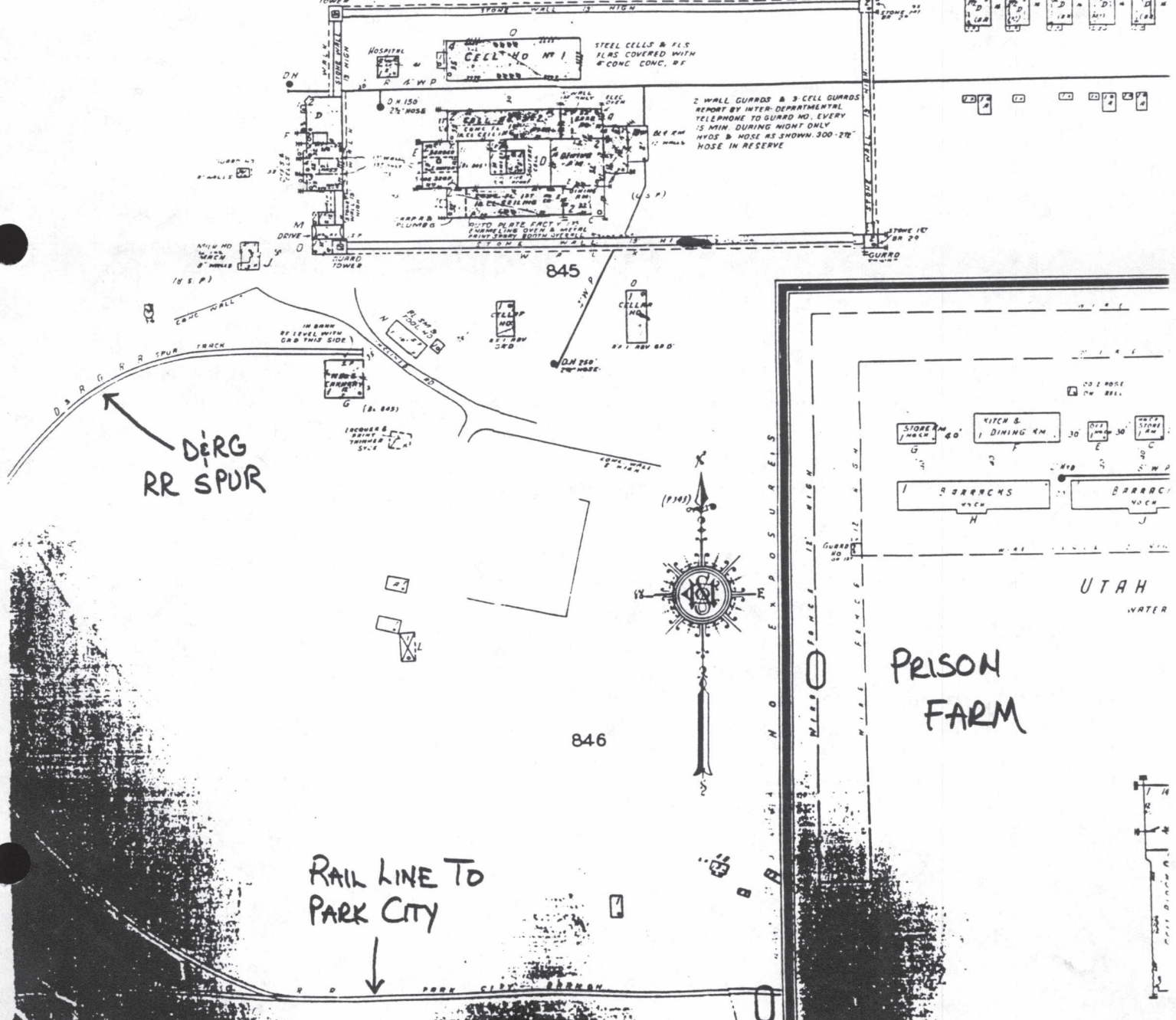
My limited efforts in Sugar House Park (2-3 hours) produced a few Wheaties with my best recovery being a 1939D. I also found a 1952D Wheatie just two inches deep under a tree next to Parley's Creek. An interesting find was a "cache" of about \$2.50 in coins buried under a pine tree in a rusted Band-Aide box. Unfortunately, the treasure was buried in the late 1970's since the newest coin was 1978. I guess kids will always enjoy playing pirates and buried treasure. Hopefully, my next cache will be more valuable.

If you are looking for newer coins, it is hard to beat Sugar House Park. Walking from the various search sites, I found a number of clad coins just below the surface including a 1977 Kennedy half-dollar. Obviously, the annual Fourth of July celebration and the number of daily visitors result in a large amount of lost items. However, please be aware that the ground-keepers are very proud of the park's immaculate condition, so use your best efforts to eliminate damage to the grass. While I am not aware of any city or county parks being closed to metal detecting, only our skill and care in target recovery will keep these areas open.

Sugar House Park has a rich historical heritage, and its present beauty adds to the quality of life we enjoy in the Salt Lake Valley.



UTAH STATE PRISON



D&RG
RR SPUR

RAIL LINE TO
PARK CITY

PRISON
FARM

NUTS SERVICE PROJECT

For those who are unaware, Jim Liddiard came up with a great service project for this year. The idea is to bring in all of your modern pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters (and even paper money) found while detecting (or just found in your pocket) to put in "The Big Bottle" at each meeting. At the December meeting, the cleaned coins (or a check for the amount of the coins) will be donated to a worthy charity. This is a great way for the Club to get some positive press, so support the N.U.T.S. as well as a worthy cause. Thanks to Jim for his efforts in supervising this project.

COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The weather conspired against the Club's outing to Topliff by raining and snowing. Bruce Duggar made the trip on Saturday (after a two-hour delay in Lehi to fix his car), but he did not see any club members. If anyone went to Topliff, maybe they can give a short report at the next meeting on the results of their trip. Otherwise, let's hope for better weather for the Memorial Day trip to Dragon and Rainbow in eastern Utah. That should be a real adventure.

Some of you expressed an interest in writing an article for *Western and Eastern Treasures*, so I have included on the next page a copy of the Freelancer's Guidelines. I am happy to help anyone who wants to write an article. You could even practice by writing a short article for the *Token Hunter* (hint hint).

By the way, look for a story I wrote that will be published in the annual *Silver & Gold* issue that is due out in the next few weeks. After reading the story, you will know the exact location of where I found that silver dollar along with a number of other old coins in a small area. I have already rechecked the spot twice with no luck, but someone with a sifter might make some additional finds.

Even if you don't fancy yourself a writer, you can still be published and paid for submitting photos for the magazine's cover. Just look at some of the past issues for ideas on what *W&E Treasures* is looking for; namely, people having fun detecting in interesting places. With the most spectacular scenery in the United States, it shouldn't be hard to come up with a great-looking location. Just ask Jeral Smith to be your model (he looks even more "rustic" than Jimmy Sierra), and you would have a guaranteed cover photo that pays between \$50.00 and \$100.00.

My favorite piece of advice in the guidelines is to avoid over-posed shots, i.e., "no high heels on the beach." I was looking at old treasure magazines in a used book store, and every cover photo was obviously some guy's young girl friend detecting in the forest wearing short-shorts and a tight T-shirt or a bikini on the beach. The "models" looked like they didn't know how to hold a detector let alone find something with it. I don't know about the rest of you, but I have *never* come across a fellow detectorist dressed like that while in the field. Indeed, I believe such a find would be more rare than a St. Gauden's gold coin!

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THE MATERIAL WE NEED MUST BE:

1. True
2. Treasure oriented.
3. Not previously published.
4. Not "historical" in the lost treasure sense.

RATE OF PAY:

1. 2 cents (or more) per word. The rate depends on quality and originality of work. Photos extra.
2. Up to \$5 per photo used. (Turn page over for Photo/Cover Specifications)
3. Payment on publication along with a copy of the magazine.

LENGTH OF MANUSCRIPT:

1500 word limit. Shorter articles acceptable.

SPECIFICS:

1. Typewritten, double spaced material on white paper only.
2. Please make a copy of your manuscript for your file.
3. Submit manuscript with a SASE with sufficient postage for its return.

PRIORITY GIVEN TO:

- How to tips for treasure hunters. (Send for our Editorial Calendar, with a SASE, for specific themes/deadlines.)
- Share your experiences (i.e., equipment usage tips and site selection). Tips should help improve skills and increase success in the field. Our readers want information on who is hunting, why they chose the site, when is the best time, where they went, what equipment they used, how they used it and what they found. Be specific.
- Articles accompanied by sharp black & white or color prints (with detailed captions for each photo), illustrations, maps, charts or sidebars always enhance an article.

TIPS AND SIDE NOTES:

- Completed manuscripts, with a brief cover letter, are considered. You may want to send a query letter first if you aren't sure about the subject matter.
- Please list sources and/or reference books used to complete your manuscript (if it applies).
- We are mainly using U.S. and Canadian material.
- Field tests and product reports by assignment only.
- People's Publishing Co., Inc., buys all rights (except where other arrangements are made with the editor).
- We must be notified of simultaneous submissions (same or similar manuscript and photos sent to another publication at the same time). We will consider this material, but must be notified immediately if it has been accepted for publication by another magazine.
- No individual club event stories, except where it is unusual, accepted. Club news should be sent directly to our Club News & Views editor (Mercer Island, WA office, attn. Betty Weeks).
- Notification of receipt of manuscript within 2 weeks of delivery to Mercer Island, WA office.
- Notification of acceptance or return within 3 months (hopefully earlier) of receipt.
- If you have a specific theme/issue in mind for your manuscript, write the issue on the outside of the envelope.

MISSION STATEMENT

Western & Eastern Treasures is the world's leading how-to magazine for metal detectorists. Published continuously since 1966, Western & Eastern Treasures takes pride in delivering concise yet comprehensive editorial coverage of every aspect of treasure hunting. Each copy issue of Western Treasures is carefully balanced to include exciting features on where, when, why and how to treasure hunt responsibly. The magazine is filled with not only good reports, but also the experts in their field. They provide tips to improve skills and increase success with features on gold, silver, treasure hunting equipment, conscientious recovery techniques, fantastic finds, relic and collecting tips, coins, bottles, collectables, and the latest news affecting the sport. Often imitated but never duplicated, Western & Eastern Treasures has earned the highest level of reader confidence.

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PHOTO SPECIFICATIONS

- Send black & white prints for most stories unless you have good color photos or slides. You may send both color and black & white so that we have the option of using pictures in color. Most of the time we need black & white for best reproduction in the magazine. When sending color, prints are preferred.
- Best photos have sharp focus and good light and dark contrast.
- Send detailed captions including names of people, places and identification of finds.
- Keep backgrounds simple. Do not use multicolored sheets or carpet. Patterns behind the object confuse the eye and take away from the main subject. Use a contrasting color background—white for dark colored objects, medium to dark for light colored objects.
- Use a good 35mm camera with slow speed film for black & white or color prints. When possible use tripod & cable release to get sharp focus.
- Use lighting to illuminate detail on dark objects...watch for reflections and glare.
- Composition—Your finds should be the main focus of a photograph. Move the camera in as close as possible (or use close-up or macro lens) making the finds fill the camera frame. When photographing people with finds in their hands try to frame from the waist up, focusing on the finds and the faces. If the background isn't important, try to move in on your subject as much as possible.
- When photographing outside, keep sun behind you and shining on the subject.
- Standard size (3x5) is fine for black & white and color prints. There is no need to send enlargements, unless you have already had them enlarged for your own purposes.
- Rate of pay is up to \$5 for each photo used. If you would like to have your photos returned, notify us at the time of your article/photo submission, and include a SASE with sufficient postage to cover cost of return.

COVER SLIDE SPECIFICATIONS

- We will only consider original material to avoid duplicating covers with other publications. Let us know in advance if you are making simultaneous submissions. Preference will be given to cover slides exclusively for Western & Eastern Treasures.
- Submit color 35mm slides (or 55mm transparencies) only.
- Slides must fit our full-bleed, vertical format and taken so the main subject and composition fill the cover below the logo comfortably. Keep the background simple and the subjects and/or finds close-up. Remember to take and submit only vertically oriented shots.
- Scene and clothing of subject(s) should be appropriate to the season of the issue.
- Clothing and background must be colorful, sharp, contrasting. Bright reds, yellows, and blues are good—no camo in the woods!
- Variety is the spice of life! Find some unusual place/subjects to shoot. Stay away from a person pointing to the ground, or to a handful of something the readers cannot readily see or identify.
- Avoid overly-posed shots. Clothing and equipment should be realistic—no high heel shoes on the beach.
- Integrate themes from our Editorial Calendar (available by sending a SASE to the Mercer Island, WA office) when possible. Deadline for cover submission is the same as the editorial deadlines listed on the Editorial Calendar.
- Submit a variety of shots for our review (at least 12 to 36 slides at a time). Chances are we will find more than one good slide we will want to keep for a future cover. We will return all slides we don't use upon request.
- Rate of pay is from \$50 to \$100 depending on the quality and originality of the slide used.

—Over for Freelancers Guidelines—